

CD 2011--84/85



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

JAZZ FACULTY CONCERT

Chris Donnelly, piano
with
Ernesto Cervini, drums
Daniel Fortin, bass

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

7:30 p.m. Walter Hall

Edward Johnson Building

80 Queen's Park

CD I

TRACK 1 - ~~TALKING~~

TRACK 2 - ~~WINTER PHASIS~~

CD II

- ① Tune and play
- ② Introduction
- ③ Disturbing Inspiration
- ④ Myriad
- ⑤ Blue Hawk
- ⑥ But Still Yet
- ⑦ Lament (a)
Hex (b)

2011-12 SEASON

28/08-105 07
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Tonight's program will be announced from the stage

CHRIS DONNELLY represents a new generation of jazz pianists, composers and improvisers dedicated to creating programs that are engaging, entertaining and educating. He is continually praised for his virtuosic performances, musicality, versatility and ability to captivate audiences.

In September 2008, Chris released his Juno-nominated, debut album with Alma Records called *Solo*, featuring a blend of original material and arrangements of jazz standards. This also earned him nominations for 'Best Recording of the Year' and 'Best Keyboardist of the Year' from the 2009 National Jazz Awards.

In March 2011, Chris released an album of original music inspired by the works of graphic artist M.C. Escher. Entitled *Metamorphosis*, the 50-minute composition starts with a single theme; each movement draws inspiration from the previous one, changing subtly and seamlessly, until the music arrives at the initial theme again. The album also features a reproduction of Escher's work and an original poem by Toronto's Poet Laureate, Giorgio Di Cicco.

Chris Donnelly holds Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the University of Toronto where he studied with David Braid, Gary Williamson, Paul Read, Kirk MacDonald Alexander Rapoport and Russell Hartenberger.

Upon completing his Master of Music in Jazz Performance at the University of Toronto, Chris was awarded the Tecumseh Sherman Rogers Graduating Award for students 'deemed to have the greatest potential to make an important contribution to the field of music.'

Chris is on the jazz faculty at the University of Toronto and has previously worked as a faculty member at the Humber College Community Music School, Prairielands Jazz Camp and the National Music Camp of Canada.

Drummer **ERNESTO CERVINI** has quickly become in demand as a sideman and also as a bandleader in North America because of his unique and deep musicality. Ernesto released his debut CD as a leader, *Here*, in 2006 to critical acclaim: "*Here* is a wonderful debut that showcases Cervini's monster chops and compositional abilities." Budd Kopman, *All About Jazz*. In 2009 his sophomore release, *Little Black Bird* featuring Joel Frahm on saxophones was released on Orange Grove Records, and is being distributed by ANZIC Records (both based in New York City.) "Bold Canadian drummer Ernesto Cervini exemplifies "float like a butterfly, sting like a bee", says Ken Micallef from *Downbeat* magazine.

Ernesto has had the opportunity to share the stage with many legendary

jazz musicians; Joe Lovano, Clark Terry, Benny Golson, Cleo Laine, Pat LaBarbera, Dick Oatts, Buddy DeFranco, Eddie Daniels, Henry Cuesta, Scott Robinson, Dave Binney, Jim McNeely, Paul Nimmons, Peter Appleyard, Rane Lee and many others. He has opened for musicians such as Herbie Hancock, Kenny Garrett, Roy Hargrove, Dave Holland, Roy Haynes and Poncho Sanchez. Ernesto is currently the drummer for the ACQ, MEM3, Strange Attractors (featuring Brownman) as well as Monday Off, a 4-part vocal group. Ernesto has recorded albums with many of these groups and *Code Breaking* by the Tara Davidson Quintet was nominated for a Juno award.

Ernesto's diversity as a musician (he is also an excellent pianist and clarinetist) has allowed him to travel throughout the world, performing in some of the world's greatest concert halls and jazz clubs. Ernesto has been featured as a leader and sideman at the legendary Birdland, Sweet Rhythm, The Jazz Standard, The 55 Bar, The Montreal Bistro, The Top Of the Senator, The Rex Jazz and Blues Club and has also been fortunate enough to perform in concert halls such as Massey Hall, Glenn Gould Studio, St. Lawrence Center for the Arts and the Sugita Theatre in Yokohama, Japan.

Ernesto received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Toronto, and a Master's degree from the

Manhattan School of Music. Ernesto is continuing to push musical boundaries with his innovative compositions, as well as his imaginative and explosive drumming. He will be a constant in the global jazz scene for decades to come, through his love for musical performance and education.

DANIEL FORTIN was born and raised in Peterborough, Ontario. He graduated from the University of Toronto's Jazz Performance program in 2007. Since moving to Toronto, Dan has been an active member of the city's music scene, playing with the likes of Mike Ruby, David Occhipinti, Dave Restivo, Michael Davidson, Harley Card, Chris Donnelly, and many others. He also performs regularly with STOPTIME, Serena Ryder (Atlantic Records/EMI), Myriad (a collective trio with Chris Donnelly and Ernesto Cervini), The Brent Mah/Alex Goodman Quartet, The Alex Goodman Quintet, The Jessica Stuart Few, Potions, Felicity Williams' Al Purdy Project, The Jonathan Challoner Quartet, and ENGINE, to name a few. He participated in both the 2008 Banff International Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music, and the Centre For Improvisational Music's 2010 Summer Intensive in Brooklyn, NY. In addition to performing, Dan also teaches at Humber College in the Community Music Program.

This concert is performed on the Edith McConica Steinway piano.

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